

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Mr. Gilman A. Hill, the petitioner, declares that I am a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the United States of America, and a resident at the post office address set forth below.

That I verily believe that I am the original, first, and sole inventor of an invention entitled "METHOD FOR UPWARD GROWTH OF A HYDRAULIC FRACTURE ALONG A WELL BORE SANDPACKED ANNULUS" described and claimed in the specifications and shown in the drawings; That I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specifications, claims and any amendments to the specifications and claims.

That I do not know and do not believe that the invention was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application;

That I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware and which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37 C. F. R. 1.56(a); That the subject invention has not been patented or made the subject matter of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States or an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than six months prior to this application; and

That no application for patent or inventor's certificate on the subject invention has been filed by me or my representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States.

As the named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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The undersigned petitioner declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

The inventor's full name and address is:

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Date: *July 2, 2003*